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Security Information

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Soviet Troops in Weimar

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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12 February 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. Prior to 20 January 1952, the Flak Kaserne on the east side of Eittersburgerstrasse, Weimar (M 51/J 57), quartered about 900 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. About 75 percent of the troops were recruits. About 300 troops received close-order drill at squad level and practiced aiming in the barracks yard on 12 and 16 January. Driving-school trucks each with 5 to 8 soldiers, were observed.

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2. Prior to 20 January, the eastern section of the Tannenberg Kaserne on Am Herrenroedchen was unoccupied and its main gate unguarded. Only a few soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets were seen in the billeting area. The central section of the Tannenberg Kaserne was occupied by 600 to 700 troops, mostly recruits, who wore red-bordered black epaulets. About 250 soldiers with and without arms were seen drilling in the barracks yard on 12 January. Several young officers were noticed with the troops. A unit of 150 soldiers with rifles was seen marching out toward Luetzendorf. A unit of about 100 men left the installation toward the Luetzendorf estate on 19 January. The street called Am Herrenroedchen was blocked to civilian traffic on 14 January.

Prior to 20 January, the western section of the Tannenberg Kaserne quartered about 900 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets. About 300 to 350 troops were seen drilling in the barracks yard with rifles, submachine guns, 4 machine guns and 2 heavy mortars on 12 January. No vehicular traffic was noticed, but trucks were parked in the billeting area.

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3. On 20 January, the eastern section of the Luetzendorf Kaserne on Luetzendorfstrasse was occupied by about 500 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery insignia. About 75 percent of the troops were recruits. About 100 soldiers were seen drilling at squad level in the barracks yard while another 150 troops apparently had free time on 16 January. About 80 troops were engaged in rifle drill on 19 January, and about 50 soldiers assembled at the barracks building. Another 20 soldiers were cleaning trucks at the garages. A detail of 17 unarmed soldiers returned to the installation from the direction of the Luetzendorf estate.

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The central section of the Juetzendorf Kaserne was occupied by about 500 troops who wore black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia. About half of the troops observed were recruits. About 200 soldiers were seen receiving drill on 12 January, while some other soldiers carried signal equipment into garages. About 150 troops were drilling individually and at squad level on 16 January, while a detail of 8 soldiers with telephone equipment marched into the installation.

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The western section of the Juetzendorf Kaserne was still used as a hospital. The number of hospital orderlies there was estimated at 60. They wore red-bordered black epaulets. The hospital seemed to be filled to capacity with patients.

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4. Prior to 29 January, the Mueller Kaserne on Leibnitzallee was occupied by about 900 troops who wore black-bordered black epaulets, including some with signal insignia; and 20 to 30 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets and operated the sedans garaged at the barracks gate on Duererstrasse. The number of sedans there had substantially decreased. Sedans were passing through the gate on Duererstrasse. About half of the soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets seemed to be recruits. About 150 of them received rifle drill and physical training in the barracks yard on 14 January. About 200 troops received close-order drill at squad level on 17 January, while a unit of 50 to 60 soldiers with rifles marched into the installation, followed by a detail of 6 soldiers with telephone equipment.

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5. Prior to 29 January, the Fliegerhorst Kaserne, Mohra, was occupied by about 2,000 troops who seemed to be largely administrative personnel. Soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, crimson epaulets and black-bordered black epaulets were noticed. About 50 soldiers with black-bordered black epaulets were seen practicing the stringing of telephone lines on 11 and 13 January. A truck loaded with signal equipment and sedan were seen on 18 January. About 100 soldiers with crimson epaulets received infantry training with rifles, and 6 soldiers practiced with a machine gun at the barracks installation on 15 January. About 120 soldiers with crimson epaulets were seen drilling at the same place on 18 January, while another 10 soldiers received close-combat training.

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Comments.

- (1) The strength estimate of the troops in the Flak Kaserne also agrees with previous information

- (2) All vehicles observed at the Tannenbergl Kaserne belong to the 257th Motor Trans Regt which is known to be located in the central section of the installation. The occupation of the eastern and western sections have not been determined to date. The two mortars observed in the western section of the installation vaguely confirm the unidentified mortar regiment of the 20th Gds Mecz Div which, however, was believed to have moved to the eastern section of the installation from Weimar-Mohra. The eastern section may actually serve as a processing center for personnel temporarily as it had been used in former years.

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- (3) The information indicates no change in the occupation of the Juetzendorf Kaserne and the Mueller Kaserne.

- (4) It has not been determined whether the two regiments of the 20th Gds Mecz Div previously stationed at Weimar-Mohra airfield have vacated their quarters to furnish space for the Hq Light Gds Army there. For speculation regarding the present location of the division's mortar regiment, see Field Comment (2). The 45th Gds Mecz Regt of the 20th Gds Mecz Div may have been transferred to Gera. The infantry company mentioned in the present report as having been

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engaged in training at the Fliegerhorst Kaserne seems to be the infantry guard detail, probably of the 14th Eighth Uds Army, which was mentioned in a report of December 1951

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